(iii) The thermal power plants have been directed to install high efficiency Electrostatic Precipitators;

(iv) A programme for control of pollution from Vehicular exhausts has been launched; and

(v) Air quality monitoring stations have been set up.

(c) Yes, Sir. The Indraprastha power station has been directed to replace three units of electrostatic precipiators which are not functioning satisfactorily. Action has been taken by the power station to replace these units by installing high efficiency electrostatic precipitators. A monitoring cell has also been set up at the Indraprastha Power Station for periodic assessment of performance of the electrostatic precipitators.

(d) Yes, Sir. The proposal includes provision whereby vehicles at the manufacturing stage and those onroad shall have to conform to the emission standards prescribed by the Central Government.

India's relationship with Africa

1614. SHRI RAOOF VALIULLAH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the major priorities in our foreign policy objectives and whether special thrust has been given in our relationship with Africa;

(b) whether, Government are aware that greater awareness of the facts and issues involved in the anti-apartheid struggle is required among the people of this country; and

(c) if so, what steps Government are taking to create support for the oppressed people of South Africa?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) The major priorities of our foreign policy are peace, disarmament and development. Africa has consistently enjoyed a special priority in our foreign policy preoccupations. The critical situation in Southern Africa has called for special attention to this region.

(b) The people of India are strongly committed to support the struggle against apartheid. There is nevertheless a continuing need to increase public awareness of all aspects of this struggle.

(c) Government have been deploying consistent efforts in such fora as the United Nations, the Non-Aligned Movement and the Commonwealth to mobilise world public opinion in support of the oppressed people of South Africa. Government have forcefully advocated the application of comprehensive mandatory sanctions as the only effective means to secure the dismantlement of the system of apartheid in South Africa. Government have also urged the widest possible support of South African liberation movements.

Export of Cotton

1615. SHRI RAOOF VALIULLAH: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) what is the quantity of cotton produced by cotton producing States during 1984-85, 1985-86 and by the end of 1986-87 and the quantity exported during these years;

(b) what is the quantity of cotton likely to be exported this year and whether Government are considering higher allocation;

(c) whether it is a fact that there is a steep rise in the export of cotton; if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether Government are considering to boost the export of cotton to prevent glut in the market?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) to (d) A statement is attached.